

REMARKS

The specification and claims have been amended to correct grammatical errors and employ more idiomatic English, and to address the several objections and 112 rejections raised by the Examiner. Claims 4 and 9 have been canceled. No new matter has been entered by any of the foregoing amendments.

Turning to the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC § 102 as anticipated by Llewellyn U.S. Patent 5,374,860, the Examiner's rejection is in error. Llewellyn does not teach the features of amended claim 1. Llewellyn simply teaches a multiplexer 36 that receives an output from a multiplexer 34 (Fig. 5). Llewellyn never teaches connections of the first through the $(N+1)^{th}$ stage selectors and the delay elements. Thus, Llewellyn cannot anticipate or render obvious Applicant's claim 1, or claims 2 and 3 which depend thereon. Turning to the rejection of claims 1-4 as obvious from Applicant's admitted prior art ("AAPA") in view of Llewellyn, Applicant's Fig. 1A teaches a selector that receives multiple inputs from delay elements. However nowhere does Applicant's prior art teach a selector that receives an output from a next plus one selector. Llewellyn does not supply the missing teachings. Thus, no combination of Llewellyn nor Applicant's admitted prior art can anticipate nor render obvious claims 1-4.

The indicated allowability, over the art, of claim 5-9 is noted, with thanks.

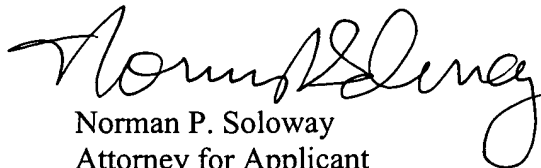
Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

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In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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